HIGH LIFE HAS ITS TUMBLES

Pointed Lessons in the Downfall of the Blairs of St. Louis.

SOCIAL IDOLS SHATTERED IN A MOMENT

Manifest Folly of Preaching that Which One Falls to Practice-Pathetic Features of a Domestic Tragedy.

The most amazing domestic tragedy in high life that has furnished successive chapters for newspapers for weeks past is the swift, unbroken downfall of the Blair family in St. Louis. A month ago James L. Blair and his wife were acknowledged leaders of St. Louis society. Today the husband occupies a hospital ward, dangerously ill, and the faithful wife is by his side. Their famous country home, "Airdrie," is stripped of its luxurious furnishings, tenantiess and for sale to satisfy a mortgage. The post of general counsel for the fair association, paying \$18,000 a year, has gone to another lawyer, and Mrs. Blair has retired from the presidency of the ladies' board of managers of the fair. One insurance company is seeking through the courts to cancel a policy of \$209,090 on Blair's life, and the local grand jury is searching for evidence of alleged crooked transaction, the publication of which practically wrecked the family, socially and

According to the charges being investigated by the grand jury Blair is accused of leading a double life for ten years, on the one hand delivering lectures on morality in business and at the same time beating friends and clients out of money aggregating from \$40,000 to \$250,000.

Apparently Exemplary.

The career of Blair in St. Louis has been that of an exemplary man, and to such an extent has he been honored that when reports of his trouble first became noised about some of the most prominent bankers and capitalists went to him and offered ald. He told them the reports were false and he would be able to disprove them in proper time. He has been stricken ill since the excitement became intense in his case and has not appeared at his offices for geveral weeks.

When he wanted money he found no couble in getting it. It is said he horrowed \$5,000 from Dick Bros. & Co. after the St. Louis cyclone on his personal word, stating he had received severe losses from the storm. He sustained no losses, but paid back the money in due course.

In February, 1902, Blair went to several business friends and told them that he was placed in an embarrassing position by the peculations of a brother. These men raised \$135,000 to make good these losses. James Campbell, the broker, is one of the heaviest backers of Mr. Blair. In 1902, when the first rumors were floated in business circles about Blair, he was requested to withdraw his account from a local bank and did so. After that he began to lose the hold of though a vast majority remained with him to the last, and are yet willing to aid him

Too Much Society.

James L. Blair's downfall is attributed to his love for society and to his beautiful wife. Mrs. Blair, as president of the board of lady managers of the World's fair, is known nationally. He, as general counsel for the exposition, was equally well known and honored. Husband and wife held two of the most honored posisuburb, was far-famed and many a small fortune has been squandered by them on these social functions. The home itself cost a fortune, but was recently placed under mortgage for the purpose of meeting certain obligations which Biair could no otherwise fulfill. One of the social functions at the Blair home this summer was a children's party, where men and women prominent in St. Louis social circles dressed as boys and girls. This party was afterward aped in Newport and the east, Blair spent as much as \$3,000 per annum for photographs of his wife and himself to distribute to the newspapers and friends. Reporters who called at the Blair home during the heyday of Mrs. Blair's career, seeking information about her social suc ceases, were treated in royal fashion and given pictures of her that cost as much as \$5 each. Some of the more favored were driven back to the city in the Hlair carriages. They courted newspaper noto-

A Power in Politics. Not only in society did they lead, but came to the aid of a popular move for ph W. Folk for governor. It was he who began the move to raise \$15,000 to buy a home for Folk, but the latter refused the ishment. gift. He is a member of the public welfare commission of the state, and he framed several charter amendments to the city that would tend to improve conditions politically. He was the man who secured the juvenile court law and courts for Missouri, thus following in direct lead of lilinote and New York and giving separate courts for children accused of crime. He was a member of the police board and always worked hard in the interest of reform movements. This is why his downfall has created such consternation in St. Louis. where he was born and reared to a high estate in the city's organization.

Blair's love for his wife is well known Mrs. Blair, having organized several singing societies in the city and always popular in musical circles, often appeared before the footlights to sing. expensive flowers were always handed to her at the conclusion of every effort, and these came from but one source-her hushand. He seldom went home without some token for his wife; he never stayed at the clubs, but preferred to spend his time at her side; he shadowed her at social functions; in fact, he was madly infatuated with

Leading Extravagant Lives.

Mrs. Binir was equally devoted to her husband and aided him in building up his reputation. Some accuse her of having been his downfall, but it is said by intimate acquaintances that Mrs. Blair always chided her husband for spending so lavishly for her. She kept him from so doing much as possible. The extravagance of the couple, who are both in middle life, was commented upon by the entire city. and even multi-millionaires did not entertain half so lavishly. But every one believed that instead of a 225,000 Income he was sharing a \$100,000 income.

When it came to the entertainment of guests from abroad by the city's swell set the Blairs were considered indispensable All of the prominent people who have visited the city from abroad in the interest of the World's fair have been entertained at the Blair home instead of elsewhere,

federacy. A shining example of the poor, studious youth who rose to be nearly St. Louis' most prominent citizen; who lived cleanly and bravely through days of poverty; who became a generous host and patron of all that is good and lovely in days of prosperity; who outraged no conventions, but was a model son, husband, father, citizen, making his home the haven of all his endeavor and the center of his influence. He was a lecturer on civic rightousness and a hundred other allied subjects; a politician who constantly preached and worked for reforming his party and In the affairs of the city, state and nation; a bitter, irritant fighter; waspish, shrewd and persistent in his enmittee and political policies; the driving power of many a campalga undertaken by right-seeking but impractical advocates of good government; strong in his dislikes, cold to those he neither hated nor loved, and warm enough for comfort to his friends.

All St. Louis knew this man thus. He was a member of the rich and exclusive St. Louis club, of the University club by reason of his connection with Princeton, a member of the Noonday club, where the wealthlest and most prominent ousiness and professional men of the city gather each day at luncheon; a member of the Country club, the first and most exclusive of these luxurious suburban resorts where wealthy St. Louisans play golf and polo; also a member of the Mercantile club and other organizations in which publicspirited men of influence and riches are gathered.

Family Prominence.

Blair is 49 years old. His father left no great estate, and there were many among whom it was divided. James was educated in the public schools of St. Louis and was barely able to take a short course at Princeton. Then he was compelled to undertake bread-winning. It is said of him that though his family gave him a social position he was unable to avail himself of many invitations on account of his pov-

He studied law while serving as a court slerk and began practice with only the advantage of a somewhat larger acquaintance among influential persons than is usually the fortune of a poor beginner in the law. It was through his family connections that he was enabled to secure practice which became lucrative.

The Alexanders and Pynes of New York were influential in securing for him a posttion as the legal representative in St. Louis of an insurance company and other legal business which brought large fees. Throughout his career as a lawyer he has been seen in court but few times, his practice being principally advisory.

Mrs. Blair has long been recognized as a ader. Handsome and of a stately bearing, well trained and of unusual artistic culture and aspiration, she has, in fact, made for herself a place so distinct as to cause her personality to assume an exceptional and peculiar prominence as that of a high-class representative of the best ele-

It is quite generally conceded that no other St. Louis woman has done so much for the advancement of musical interest and the development of music in St. Louis confidence possessed by business men, al- as has Mrs. Blair. Her efforts and achievements in this line have been characterized by a deep earnestness which amply proved her sincerity as a lover and patron of music. It is certain that, prominent as she is in society, she values more highly her station in the world of local lovers of music and is more ardent in work on behalf of this art than in that pertaining to her position as a social leader.

President of the board of lady managers of the World's fair and of the Woman's club of St. Louis, both positions testifying tions in one of the greatest exposition en- St. Louis' representative woman, it is certo her occupancy of the foremost place as terprises the world has ever known. Their tain, nevertheless, that Mrs. Blair found entertainments given at their beautiful an even greater satisfaction in her position home, "Stancote," in Kirkwood, a St. Louis as president of the Morning Choral society nt of the Morning Choral society and as the founder and director of the girls' classes in music, to which she gave so much of her time, thought and money.

A united appeal for the restoration of the rod in the public schools has been made by the French principals. At present the Board of Education prohibits the use of corporal punishment in the schools, although previous to centralization the principals in Brooklyn were allowed to use their discretion. In the Manhattan schools for many years. The principals in boys' schools, those who come in dally contact with the children and know what conditions they have to meet, declare that the present system has been a failure, and that the rule of the rod must be restored. On the other hand, the officials of the board, or at least some of them, claim that the schools should be governed by moral suasion. For nearly a year the principals, through their associations, have been conducting investigations into the discipline elsewhere. Blair was the first man who in the public schools, and as a result a Horace, "the most unselfish man we have Board of Education, asking for the abolition of the rule prohibiting corporal pun-

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

The per capita consumption of potatoes in the United States is 3% bushels per annum, while in Germany it is 28% bushels. An acre in potatoes in Germany yields 200 bushels and in the United States 26. As Mrs. Jacob Banders of Lancaster, Pa., gave a yawn, after returning home, her jaws cracked and her lower jaw became dislocated. Physicians worked three hours trying to replace the jaw, but they were compelled to give her an anaesthetic before it could be replaced.

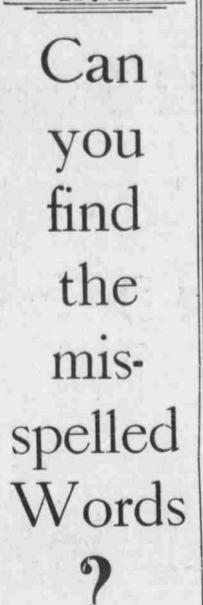
Texas millionaire and is sold to own mining stock valued at \$700,000.

Three times has the stork visited the home of Municipal Court Judge George F. Roesch of New York City, and each time on election day. The latest addition to his homor's family arrived Tuesday morning. November 3. The judge and his wife have always taken a deep interest in political affairs. Mrs. Roesch having given valuable affairs. Mrs. Roesch having given valuable habit who ever entered the Cincinnati hospital, so far as the records of that institution show, is James Gates, aged 57, who admitted that for twenty-two years he has averaged ten grains a day. In that time he has taken 80,500 grains. Three grains will kill a nonuser. Gates has swallowed enough morphine to kill 25,767 persons. It is thought he cannot survive many days.

According to the latest statistics, the

at the Hilair home instead of elsewhere, because of the place and the social standing of the place and the social standing of the family.

Hair is a grandson of Francis Preston Blair, the one editor in whom General Jackson had complete confidence, and Jackson had complete confidence, and Jackson is literary executor; son of that Francis Preston Blair known to the country as Frank P. Bisir, Lincoln's strong friend and comfidence, and and confidence in London appears to be showing the had something of vital importance to say, and said it directly to the hearts of his listeners with passion, because he felt it, with self-forgetfulness, with case because the message was insistent and would be delivered. Sir Horace's within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is within twelve miles of Charling Cross, or of which part is with ease because he had something of vital importance to say, and said it directly to the hearts of his listeners with passion, because he felt it, with self-forgetfulness, with ease because he had something of vital importance to say, and said it directly to the hearts of his listeners with passion, because the man because he had something of vital importance to say, and said



Prizes for finding misspelled words on The Bee Want Ad pages.

The Bee is going to give two hundred valuable prizes to the people who find the greatest number of mis-spelled words in its Want Ad pages, beginning Monday. November 16th, and ending Sunday, November 22d. If your sight is good and you know how to spell, it is an easy way to win a prize. Watch the Want Ad pages on these days.

The Prizes	
Delea	Value
1st \$10.00.	\$10,00
2nd 1 Dinner Set	10.00
3rd 1 Dinner Set	10.00
4th 1 Set "Living Animals of the	6.00
1 Set "Life of Napoleon"	6.00
5th three volumes	6,00
OLL three volumes	1 50
7th Great Painters"	. 1.50
	1.50
Owner termine Pulliberty Conservation of the C	
10th 1 Copy "Great Pictures by Great Painters"	1.50
11th Book" Mother Goose Paint	1.25
12th 1 Copy "Mother Goose Paint	1.25
1941, 1 Copy "Mother Goose Paint	1.25
15th 1 Copy "Mother Goose Paint Book"	1.25
10th Book" New Books and Novel	1950
16th to 25th New Books and Novel	12,00
26th to 35th Fountain Pens, worth 75c	7.50
36th to 50th State Map, worth \$1.00	15,00
36th to 50th State Map. worth \$1.00	75.00
200 prizes	70.95

The Conditions

The person finding the greatest number of mis-spelled words will be awarded the first prize. In case of a "tie", the person mailing answer first, according to the postmark on the envelope, will be given preference. All answers must be sent by mail.

Cut out the advertisements and paste them on a sheet of paper. Underline the mis-spelled word with a pencil or ink, and write your name and address at the top of the sheet. No person connected with The Bee Publishing Company will be permitted to enter this contest.

No abbreviations will be counted as spelled words. The 1968 edition of Webster's dictionary will

be taken as authority. Cut out the ads each day, mark the misspelled words, paste them all on a SINGLE sheet of paper and send the whole thing in complete after you have studied the Sunday, November 22nd edition. Don't send in your answer until the end of the week or they won't be counted.

If a mis-spelled word occurs in an advertisement which appears more than once, put only one copy of the "ad" on your list.

Send all answers by mail, addressed "Want Ads" Department, Omaha Daily Bee, Omaha.

Sir Horsos Plankett an Effective Force in the Iriah Revival.

Untiring, Boundless Sympathy for the People in Their Struggles Against Poverty-"Au Ora-

tor Not Born but Made."

The Fortnightly Review contains a very interesting article by Katherine Tynan on "Sir Horace Plunkett and His work." Sir complete report has been submitted to the ever known," as his friends characterize him, might be classed as a semi-occasional resident of Omaha, possessing large property interests here, which he has handled of the people of Ireland, and is undoubtedly the most remarkable and most effective

Patriotism Tempered With Patience. "The thing that made so huge an enter-Isaac T. Pratt is the champion bear catcher of New York. "Old Ike" is 79 of the heart as of the head; it was his years old and has killed a bear for each year of his life. This year, just as he was getting ready to pot his annual victim, he was taken down with whooping cough and he has regretfully given up hunting for a life. The propose who are the stones in the life. The propose who are the stones in the life. The propose who are the stones in the life. prise possible to him was as much a matter Joseph Bramweil and his wife celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage in Flushing, N. Y. on Sunday. He was present at the coronation ceremonics of four British sovereigns, being but a child in arms when his parents carried him out to see the coronation procession of George IV.

William S. Tuttle is marriage and the people who are the stones in the path of his great work, are impossible to him. He is a good fighter; and yet so important work to be got through. "Sometimes the banks have odd applications for loans. It is understood, of course, that loans are only given for mistaken. In the matter of that Galway election which now is ancient history, the crowds were unused to the chivalry of a pig or seeds or manure or farm important work to be got through." George IV.

William S. Tuttle is making arrangements to raise Benedict Arnold's flag ship Royal Savage from Lake Champiain, where it was scuttled in the war of 1812 in the battle of Plattaburg. Among the relics supposed to be aboard the craft are Benedict Arnold's election were declared void. Sir Horace Plunkett is, of course, a Protestant: but he has probably done more to close to prove that her husband. Edwin will be received severed to take an advantage of the enemy, as when Sir Horace declared to the chivalizy of a man who refused to take an advantage of the enemy, as when Sir Horace declared to the chivalizy of a man who refused to take an advantage of the enemy, as when Sir Horace declared the County Mayo, and requested a loan of the county Mayo, and requeste Just to prove that her husband. Edwin D. Mooors is fully able to pay \$3,000 a year alimony Mrs. Mooers had introduced in a New York City court the testimony that his liquor bill alone amounts to \$400 a month. The defendant is the son of a Texas millionaire and is said to own mining stock valued at \$700,000.

but he has probably done more to close the surface in the sectarian gulf between Protestants and Catholics in Ireland than any other man. His humor plays about this grave subject, as when he said at a meeting in Belfast, where he tried to coax the Orangemen out of their sectarian cave: "We all know that the suit of clothes. The committee demurred at first that they had no money to lend for this purpose. "Well." said the applicant, "the case is this. I'm fond of Nora Carty, and she has a nice little farm as well. I'm going to ask her tomorrow, and if she says no to me I'll be off to

sistent and would be delivered. Sir Horace's oders, but I haf never heard yet of dat

"His sympathy for the people places him BEST PAID MAN IN THE BUNCH mon among those who listen to him. on the level of the simplest peasant. In a long vacation, when other men are on the ionable cure, he may be found visiting the congested districts, tramping day after day from one wretched collection of cabins to corporal punishment has been abolished PRACTICAL REMEDIES FOR ANCIENT ILLS another, stooping to enter at their low doors into the dense reek of turf smoke, sitting there among the hens and the children, while the pig, if the family be rich

> only apathy and despatr. The poverty of these districts may be gathered from the fact that the average poor law valuation of the inhabitants is only 10 shillings 6 pence (\$2.62) a year.

mough to possess one, wanders in and out

of his own sweet will, encouraging, advis-

ing, striving to give hope where there was

Libraries and Banks.

The starting of village libraries is one f Sir Horace's schemes. He has a paper, the Irish Homestead, which carries on a propaganda for making the Irish countryside lighter and less desolate. The Irish with the intelligent progressiveness of a co-operative societies now number 60,000 regular resident. At home he is putting in members. The co-operative banks have operation practical measures for the benefit proved a great success, and, as is usual with such experiments, it has been found that the loans are invariably repaid. The banks have killed the "gombeen man;" figure which the Irish rivival has produced. they are managed by the people themselves, What sort of a man he is is told by Miss and this brings great opportunities for business training and responsibility.

"They are very proud of their participation in the management of the banks and kindred societies. The resident magistrate at Belmullet had a car-driver who

crowds were unused to the chivalry of a plements. One evening, a young man of their sectarian cave: 'We all know that America. Now, I'd have twice as good carrying 200 pounds of mail at a time. He of clothes to my back instead of these sledge dogs are costly, to say nothing of rags.' The committee reconsidered the their food.

would like to call your attention to this accordingly. "Jake's beer? Vot kind of beer is dat? I never heard of dat brewery before. "Madame, this is Shakespeare." "I haf heard of Schlitz beer, und Seipp's

"You are laboring under a mistake, my steady income. "Yah, dat is all right, but I haf bock den conversions are by no means uncom- beer, too."-Chicago Chronicle.

Sequesters the Dough.

MORGAN AND SCHWAB OVERSHADOWED

Salaries of Other People Put on a Comparative Scale-Talent, Skill and Headship Command Liberal Checks.

The biggest "official salary" paid any one on earth, so far as records show, is that collected by the grand vizier of Morocco. In a country with a high standard of ethics and a lofty plane of morals this salary might find a plainer name of "graft," but in eastern eyes it is the lawful

stipend of the office. In comparison with this official's revenue the president of the United States and the president of France are paid like messenger boys. Even J. Pierpont Morgan does not rate much higher than a ribbon counter clerk when his income is placed alongside

that of the grand visier. This official handles all the revenue of the country. In the handling he diverts such portion as he thinks will repay him for his expenditure of time and energy He is without doubt the best paid states-

man in existence. The salary is so big that no one knows the exact amount which the grand vizier places to his account every year. It may be indicated by the fact that in a few years the savings of the late Grand Vizier Ben Hamed amounted to \$5,000,000--not made in speculation or business ventures, but saved out of his salary. And yet they say that a man on salary can't get rich. Ben Hamed kept his savings in gold bul lion stacked away in the cellars of his

palace at Marakesh Two other high salaries paid for daily of receiving \$25,000 a year for his work. He probably would laugh at you. Yet this is applicant, 'the case is this. I'm fond of the actual figure paid to the man who carries the mail between Eagle and Valdery in Alaska. The distance is 414 miles and and if she says no to me I'll be off to the postman makes two journeys a month, uses an immense number of dogs, and good

Steel Boller Gets \$21,000.

Almost equally absurd does it sound to say that the remuneration of a laborer is \$21,000 a year. That is the sum paid to A. The young book agent entered the obscure | J. Day, employed as a roller at the Pittsburg mills of the United States Steel corporation. He was formerly one of Mr. Carnegie's men. He is said to be the best man "Good morning, madame," he began. "I at his work of rolling steel rails and is paid

Patti's salary for her approaching American tour is worthy to be classed among the high salaries of the world. She will receive \$1,000 a concert for sixty concerts, in addition to her expenses. Her record was \$5,000 und Engel's beer, und Keeley's beer, und for a single concert, paid once in New Orleans. But neither she nor any other prima donna ever kept up that sort of thing as a

> Possibly the best paid woman in the world is Mme. Hegion of the Paris opera. She is paid \$30,000 a year, and the second

star, Mmc. Brevel, gets \$18,000. The amounts | heard of Mr. Clinton Dawkins. made by lecturers frequently rival those became Mr. Goschen's private secretary made by great singers. Ian Maclaren once and in 1895 secretary of finance in Egypt made \$50,000 in six weeks. Henry M. Stan- There, and later on in India, he made a moors or the sea, or taking the latest fash- Merocco's Potentate Takes the Bakery and ley did even better and was paid at the rate great name as a financial expert. His fame of \$12,000 a night.

Archbishop Receives \$65,000.

As speaker of the House of Lords the lord chancellor of England gets \$20,000 a year. As a judge he gets another \$30,000, making to be the biggest salary paid by any bank. his combined earnings as great as those of There are not more than three bank manthe president of the United States. A simi- agers in England who get one-fifth of Mr. lar amount is paid yearly to the bishop of Dawkins' salary. London and to the archbishop of York, while the archbishop of Canterbury receives the largest yearly payment that investments. The two largest in the world England makes to any one outside of the royal family. He gets \$65,000 a year.

To reach the really high official salaries one has to go back to the so-called bankrupt countries of the east. The money given the highest official in the richest western countries compares poorly with the salaries of these eastern statesmen. The Turkish minister of finance gets \$40,000 a the best paid, as the official who is in a few old broken down battleships gets the muneration of \$75,000 a year. salary of \$80,000 a year. His perquisites swell this amount to such an extent that the present incumbent of the office has amassed a neat fortune of about \$15,000,000. Compare with these saturies the \$50,000 the same company, was \$250,000. which is paid to the president of this country and the \$120,000 which the president of France receives. The small officials of their chemist, J. O. Donner, gets. But

nearly as much as the president of France. Refuses \$200,000 a Year. There is a man who received an offer of the large salary of \$200,000 a year and, incredible as it may seem, refused it. This is Herr Ballin, the gifted German, who is managing director of the Hamburg-American line of steamers. The offer was made to him by heads of the Anglo-American Shipping trust if he would become director

of that corporation. A dozen years ago the public had never and health.-Chicago Tribune.

attracted the notice of the heads of one of

the biggest private banks in the world-that of J. S. Morgan & Co. He now draws \$250,000 a year in their service. His is said

The great life insurance companies pay high figures to the men who control their each allow their presidents \$150,000 a year and the third fixes its president's remuneration at \$100,000. There is one actuary working for an assurance company with headquarters in London who gets \$35,000 a year.

Railway Salaries Are Large. Railway companies are not stingy. J. Pierpont Morgan paid Mr. Samuel Spencer year, the minister of foreign affairs \$50,000 \$50,000 a year to give expert opinions on the and the grand vizier \$60,000. Even he is not railway properties he was buying up, and M. Ingalls works also for Messrs. Morgan charge of the admiralty and who manages and Vanderbilt for the comfortable re-

As managing director of the Consolidated Goldfields of South Africa, limited, Mr. Rhodes used to get about \$350,000 a year, and Mr. Rudd's salary, also a director of The Sugar trust pays its officials well. A

notable instance is the \$50,000 a year which Turkey get more than Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Donner has to work hard for money. Sugar from every part of the world, cane and beet, comes before him, and he has to exercise expert opinion on it. The great experts in all of the principal commercial lines are well paid. Fifteen thousand dollars a year is the salary of the chief tea taster and blender of one great British tea firm. This gentleman has also the expenses of a three months' holiday paid yearly. He needs it badly, for ten tasting is most trying to the nerves

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